

Abraham, Justified by Grace, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 4.

B. We should be shocked at any religious system that says you can gain heaven by a religious ceremony or some work of a person's own doing.

C. Salvation comes through justification by grace through faith.

D. Abraham is the illustration of justification by faith.

II. Abraham was justified through faith and not works.

A. God was gracious because He gave Abraham a promise.

B. Faith is the means by which it is received.

III. Abraham was justified by grace and not by law.

A. Jews believed that Abraham was justified by circumcision.

B. Abraham saw a spiritual reality behind the promise. He understood that he would be multiplied, inherit the world, and be a blessing to the world. Abraham saw beyond Isaac to a redeemer. (Hebrews 11:10, Genesis 15:28, 13:16, John 8:56, Galatians 3:29, I Corinthians 6:17, Galatians 3:8-9)

C. Believers are joint heirs of Christ and will inherit the world with Him. (I Corinthians 3:21)

D. If a person comes to God through the law, he must keep all the law, or he is cursed. (Galatians 3:10, 17)

E. The Pharisees believed that everything hinged upon the law. The law could never bring a promise because no one could keep the entire law.

F. The reason that the law could not save is that the law works wrath.

G. The law was given to demonstrate our sin and bring us to Christ. (Galatians 3:24)

H. Salvation is through faith by grace, so God gets the glory.

I. If salvation is through faith, everyone has access to it.

IV. Abraham was justified by divine power and not human effort.

Application questions:

1. What is Abraham's relationship with Jesus according to the speaker?

2. How is Abraham a picture of salvation through faith and not through works?

3. How should the believer understand the law now that he or she is under grace? Explain.
